

2009 MLA Updates

The changes made to MLA format were implemented in April of 2009 and released in its 7th edition of *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. Paper formatting and in-text citations remain the same, but all Works Cited entries will be different from the 6th edition guidelines.

Quick Glimpse of Major Changes:

- Italicize titles of independently published sources (books, periodicals, DVDs, etc...).
 - MLA no longer is requiring URLs for website entries.
 - It does prompt writers to provide a URL if the citation information does not easily lead readers to the source.
 - It is no longer necessary to cite whether or not scholarly publications use continuous pagination or not. For these entries both volume and issue numbers are required.
 - Every Works Cited entry receives a medium of publication marker (i.e. print, web, etc...)
 - Web source entries require a publisher name, date of publication, and/or page numbers.
- Here are some helpful abbreviations and what they translate to:
- N.p.= no publisher given
 - n.d. = if a website omits a publication date
 - n.pag. = when journals only appear online or a database does not provide pagination

MLA Sample Entries

Book

These citations remain relatively the same with the exception of italicizing the title and adding the medium of publication at the end:

Bernardin, H. John. *Human Resource Management: An Experiential Approach*. 5th ed. Boston: McGraw-Hill Irwin, 2009. Print.

Scholarly Publication

Scholarly publications include both volume and issue numbers, and the medium of publication at the end.

Wilcox, Rhonda V. "Shifting Roles and Synthetic Women In Star Trek: The Next Generation." *Studies in Popular Culture* 13.2 (1991): 53-65. Print.

Online Periodical

Include the name of the website in italics and the website publisher. If there is no publisher listed use N.p. Follow the publication date with Web as a medium of publication and then the date accessed.

Lubell, Sam. "Of The Sea and Air and Sky." *New York Times*. New York Times, 26 Nov. 2008.
Web. 27 August 2009.

Online Database or Scholarly Journal Article

Cite online journal articles found in a database the same as you would cite print articles. The database name is italicized and library information is no longer required. List the medium of access as Web and follow it with the date accessed.

Berger, James D. and Helmut J. Schmidt. "The Deregulation of DNA Content In the Human Genome." *The Journal of Cell Biology* 53.1 (1978): 116-126. *JSTOR*. Web.
27 Aug. 2009.

Online-only Publication

For articles that appear in an online-only format or in a database that omits page numbers, use the abbreviation n. pag. for no pagination. The citation will end with the medium of publication and the date accessed.

Andreadis, Athena. "The Enterprise Finds Twin Earths Everywhere It Goes, But Future Colonizers of Distant Planets Won't Be So Lucky." *Science and Society* 5.2 (2009):
n. pag. Web. 27 Aug. 2009.

Online Scholarly Project:

Projects appear italicized. If the project is difficult to find you may list in quotation marks the website name and domain in italics. Publication location and the date follow. The medium of publication and date of access are at the end.

Jackson, Samuel, ed. *Geoffrey Chaucer Online: The Electronic Canterbury Tales*.
U. of College of London, 30 Jul. 2007. Web. 27 Aug. 2009.